

## GOVERNOR BARBOUR, SECRETARY NEPOLITANO IN COAST VISIT

### Governor praises selection of Craig Fugate to head FEMA

Jackson, Mississippi – Governor Haley Barbour says he's looking forward to joining Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano on the Mississippi Gulf Coast Friday for an assessment of progress and needs related to hurricane recovery.

"I appreciate Secretary Napolitano's willingness to visit Mississippi for a first-hand look at progress and needs on the Gulf Coast. The federal government has been a good partner in our efforts to recover from Hurricane Katrina and we are all interested in doing everything possible to finish the job," Governor Barbour said.

Governor Barbour also praised President Obama's selection of Florida emergency management director Craig Fugate as head of the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Fugate is expected to accompany Secretary Napolitano on the Gulf Coast visit.

"In choosing Craig Fugate to head FEMA the President has picked a proven, highly regarded emergency management and disaster recovery expert. Craig's experience in Florida, especially in 2004, will serve the country well," Governor Barbour said.

"We in Mississippi particularly applaud Craig's selection because he was such a resource to our state's emergency and disaster assistance leaders before, during and after Katrina," he said.

# # #